

St Peter Lutheran Church Tidings

May 2018

Projecting Christ to All Generations

Pastor Charis Combs-Lay

The Pharisee and the Publican Parable

First, the Pharisee. Our pharisee spends his entire prayer time recommending himself to God. According to his own prayer, he does everything right. His conscience is totally clear and without a single dent. I think he says these things because they are true, and because he wants God and everybody to know just how righteous he is. And he really is what we would justly call a good person. He does not realize his own failures. He really believes that he is entitled to blessings. "Oh, Lord, it's hard to humble when you're perfect in every way. I just can't wait for tomorrow, 'cause I get better looking each day. To know me is to love me. I must be a wonderful man. Oh, Lord, it's hard to humble, but I'm doing the best that I can." No big sinner here. Little things, sure who doesn't, but those can't be sins, can they?

Now, the Tax Collector. Here is a man who knows the depths human beings go to when they want to conceal something, right? And, he's going to look everywhere in others finances to find every penny they owe the government. In fact, since he's appointed by the Roman Empire, he makes a commission on every penny he collects. No one likes him. Everyone expects him to do the morally wrong thing. And, he knows himself, because he constantly faces secrets, his own and other peoples. He understands sin. He traps, ensnares. Here's the difference between the two. The publican sees himself for who he really is. He authentic and real. He knows himself and he'd really like to be better.

The self-satisfied guy. The humble guy. Jesus contrasts them for us, and asks us which of the two leaves the House of Prayer forgiven.

In our Sunday services after Easter, we are thanking God for His blessings. We remind ourselves that God has actually blessed us, especially with Easter. After Pentecost, we will return to Confession and Forgiveness. Because we want to be real, and authentic. We want to both thank God and we'd really like to be better. Amen.



On a different subject, Pentecost Sunday we will together affirm the Christian faith of our eighth graders. Plan on celebrating this moment in the live of our young people and the life of our church with us. Grace and peace be with you.

Pastor Charis

Worship & Music Server

Sunday worship - 9:00 am

We still need volunteers for May - Please call the office or go to our website to sign up

	May 6 Sunday 9:00 am	May 13 Mother's Day Sunday 9:00 am	May 20 Affirmation of Baptism Sunday 9:00 am	May 27 Graduation Sunday 9:00 am
Communion Assistants	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Scripture Readers	Sue Buss	Gavin Carman	TBD	Brian Haase
Acolytes	Conner Vauthier & Kasey Wirtjes	Hunter Ackerman & Jacob Lyons	Grace Upshaw & Klair Heim	Mia Leonhart & Ethan Krabbenhoft
Multimedia	Jack Mixdorf	Johnathan Leisinger	Jeff Bales	Leah Homeister
Organist	Sheila Mixdorf	Amy Lockhart	Sheryl Moeller	Amy Lockhart
Sound System	Steve DeVries	Larry Oltrogge	Alton Midthus	Roger Donaldson
Video	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Altar Guild	Kari Anfinson, Staci Mueller, Anne Sickles			
Usher/Greeters	Randy & Terrie Thurm, Joe Koepke, Mark & Jackie Fober family			
Please find a replacement if you are unable to serve at the time you are scheduled. Your ministry is vital and we give thanks for your willingness to serve.				

From the Church Office

Check out the online church calendar. The link is on the opening page of our website - www.stpeterdenver.org.

Under "Most Popular" click on calendar; you will be able to see the activities scheduled for the year.

If you would like to add something to the calendar please contact the office.

Bulletin Deadline: Thursdays 10:00 am and the **Newsletter Deadline:** 4:30 pm on the 3rd Friday of each month.

AA/Alanon

Sign Up to Bring Cookies or Make Coffee

We have a link on our website that you can access to fill in a time slot that works for you <http://www.stpeterdenver.org/volunteer.html> or contact the office and let Roxane know. We would love to keep this tradition going and need volunteers to help. Thank you to all of the people who have faithfully been helping out with this ministry.

AA/Alanon Step Class: Tuesday nights at 7 pm in lower level (second & fifth Tuesdays of the month)

Meeting: Tuesday nights at 7 pm in the lower level (first & fourth Tuesdays - round table format) **Open Meeting:** 3rd Tuesday of each month. Anyone who has an interest in or questions about the disease of alcoholism or anyone who fears that a loved one may be dealing with alcoholism is welcome to attend the monthly open meeting.

Mission & Community



Wellness Screening

We had 60 participants for the wellness screening. Thank you to Allen Lab, Pat Leonhart, Nancy Lamos, Terry Miller and Joyce Miller for making this ministry to the community possible.

The St. Peter Church Council

The council solicits members to prayerfully consider serving on the following Church Boards. The number of individuals as members on these boards has become less than desired and the respective council member contact would appreciate new input from additional congregational members. Stewardship (council member -Mary Stevens), Mission (council member- Sue Buss), Youth and Family (council member -Eve Pautsch) , Evangelism (council member- Lavone Westendorf), Education (council member -Todd Foelske), Property Management (council member - Gene Leonhart). Thank you for your support.
Jim Jurgenson, Council President.

Bartels Lutheran Community Annual Meeting

Roger and Donna Donaldson represented St. Peter at the Annual Meeting of Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community on Sunday April 8. They reported that the financial status of the corporation is very good. They are having some of the same challenges as other full care nursing facilities. The number of patients needing full care is down because of the many types of care now available. It is also difficult to hire needed care personnel. They have their own program to train CNA personnel to help with hiring people. With the opening of the new Aspen Cottage (Memory Care Assisted Living) sometime this summer they will be eight (8) levels of care available at Bartels. They project and plan for next 5, 10 to 25 years.

Bremwood

You are invited to the Bremwood Luncheon on Friday, May 18, at 1:00 pm, on the Bremwood campus. Each year the Auxiliary supports a project to benefit the children. The Auxiliary has chosen to donate the funds to Family Weekend & Spiritual life programs. Family Weekend is a weekend for families to come to campus & spend time with their child. Classes about parenting are held, as well as fun activities for all. Housing & food is also provided by these monies.

Scholarship

Up to five \$500 Educational Scholarships are again being offered by the Northeastern Iowa Synodical Women's Organization. These are for women who wish to enter or re-enter the work force, and may be used at Community Colleges or for more advanced degrees. An application form is available in the church office.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the 1st Thursday, every other month at 1:00 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 3. If you know of someone who is in need of a Prayer Shawl, please take one from the closet in the Friendship Room. Please make sure you fill out a form (located next to the new shawls).

Noisy Offering

The noisy offering for May & June, will be shared with Allen's Child Protection Services.

A follow up-

Denver Cares was able to deliver provisions for Easter Meals to 10 families in our community purchased with St. Peter's March and April Noisy Offerings. Thanks to your generosity, members of your Board of Mission assembled bags of canned and boxed food plus gift certificates from Brothers Market for these deserving families. This is truly projecting kindness and love to those around us!



Kollege Kid's Kare Kits

Thank you to our Thrivent action team/Mission Board, (pictured above, and pictured at left, three generations of mission workers:), for packing & delivering the care packages for our St Peter college students to have during finals week. The extra nourishment is much appreciated during a stressful time!

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Dori Jurgenson Megan Schmauss	17 Virgil Buhr Rodney Diercks Erin Gustafson
2 Dawn Riley	18 Chip Flory Sara Oltrogge Rylee Renner Roger & Shirley Thurm Ben & Jill Thrasher
3 Judy Vauthier Michael & Jaime Gienau Jon & Brenda Wolter	19 Carolee Oberheu Cassandra Upshaw
4 Kathy Ackerman Todd Foelske	20 Joel & Joy Wolter
5 Betty Biemann	21 Trudi Schimmels
6 Derek Gielau	22 Tyler Corell Bruce Thurm Kris Steege Jack & Sheila Mixdorf Randy & Terrie Thurm
7 Carson Haase Nick Syhre Michael Vauthier Randy & Roxi Herman	23 Donna Donaldson
8 Marissa Schwebach	25 Alton Midthus Ethan Thies
10 Larry Stock Kristen Wolter	26 Austin Herman Doug Roethler
11 Michelle Steffe Lori Thurm Renetta Thurm Tricia & Dennis Kurtz	27 Alexis Lyons
12 Amanda Swanson	28 Ed & JoAnne Blumenshine Reagan Carman Tessa Joerger Todd & Elizabeth Foelske Zackary Satterthwaite
13 Mitchell Mohlis Rachelle Nystrom	29 Ruth Fasse
14 Marcia Ott Marlys Patterson	30 Philip Michels
15 Matt Krueger Mike & Renee McInroy Garland & Heather Krabbenhoft	31 Richard Beckel Wesley Homeister Teresa Miller Zack Thrasher
16 Amy Gehrke Wanda Meier Brody Wirtjes	

Congregational News

St Peter Spring Clean Up

Join us Saturday, **May 5**, anytime between 9:00 am—Noon. We will be sprucing up the church grounds and buildings. Yard tools are encouraged.

Cemetery Clean Up

As we prepare for spring clean up around the cemetery, we would ask that any old flowers, wreaths, etc. be removed. Thank you for your help in this effort to tidy up.

Grief Support Group

The meetings for the grief support group are held the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm, at St Paul Lutheran Church, Waverly. Led by Pastor Trachte; All are welcome.

First Communion Class

The following students completed their First Communion instructions and received communion for the first time at the April 22, worship service, congratulations to: Chase Ackerman, Sam Adams, Abigail Foelske, Will Lockhart, Kiara Michels, Miranda Thurm, Lila Gesme, Lily Bergman.

Womensfest

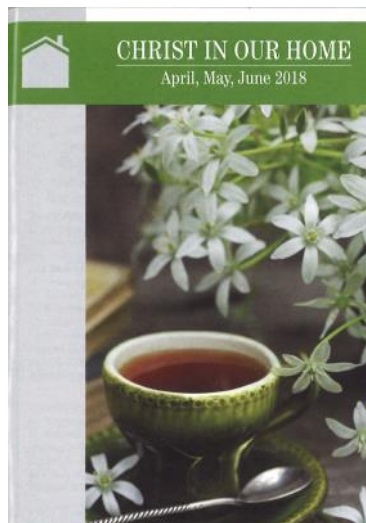
Everyone is invited to the Bible study led by Pastor Craig Henderson. They have moved the Bible study to Willow Winds Assisted Living. The time remains the same, 7:30-8:30am

Lost and Found

We have a fine assortment of earrings and buttons that can be claimed in the office. *Our newest addition to lost and found is a toddler's jacket.*

Offering Envelopes

We still have a few people that have envelopes to be picked up. They will be located on the table outside of the office and can be picked up there.



Recourses Available

A reminder we have copies of *Christ in Our Home* on the table outside the office.

Everyone is welcome to the quarterly devotional resource that encourages readers to live out their faith daily.

Each reflective reading is accompanied by a scripture reference and prayer for the day.

Community & Mission News



Books Wanted

The Board of Mission will be collecting gently used or new books to be shared with Mary

Beth and Bayo, the missionary family St Peter has helped sponsor for many years. Educating students in Nigeria is an important part of their ministry. Both books and school supplies are in short supply. As many of us think of spring cleaning and perhaps attending the Denver City Wide Garage Sales in May, children's books and school items might be something that are readily available to purchase and donate. If you have books at home that you could share, that would work as well. There will be containers near the office during the month of May for the collection of books and school supplies. Items will be shared with Mary Beth's family in Minnesota. They will be sending a container of donations to Africa sometime this summer. Thanks for helping God's children around the world!

Restore

On May 12th, during Denver's City-Wide Garage Sales, a 16-foot truck will be in the northwest parking lot at St. Peter Church in Denver. The truck will be provided by Habitat for Humanity for their fundraiser, "Restore".

"Restore" is a Home-Improvement and Retail Donation Center in Waterloo. They accept new and used material donations and sell the materials back to the public at deeply discounted prices. All proceeds go back to furthering Habitat's mission of building homes, communities, and hope.

The truck will remain at the church from Saturday the 12th through Monday the 14th. If you can't get materials to the parking lot during that time, or if the truck is full, you can call 319-883-3331 to have your donation questions answered. A complete list of donated items accepted can be found at heartlandhfh.org/restore or by calling the number listed above.

St. Peter Congregation,

As you remember from the 'prayer list' last July, our Grandson, Kaden, was quite ill. After many tests, he was diagnosed with 'Crohn's Disease' in July. We can NEVER thank you enough for all your support and prayers during that time. "Take Steps for Crohn's and Colitis" Walk, takes place May 12 (check in 10 a., walk begins at 11 a.) at the Des Moines Capital. Our daughter, Michelle, got Kaden's page up and running.

<http://online.cfa.org/goto/KadenCapedCrusaders>

Please give a listen to his video, he is so precious (just what Grandparents would say, right? His cute little smile at the end grips our heart!) Like he says in his video, any support in prayer, pledge, or joining in the walk would be greatly appreciated. If you can join in the walk, let us know by May Day so a shirt can be ordered for you, also tell me size. He's pretty stoked about "Kaden's Caped Crusaders" team name, and his team shirts!!!!!!

Thank you so much, Dave & Jo VanDeBerg

Helping Hands Clothes Closet

Located at 2029 Viking Ave. Sumner, provides free gently used clothes to lower income & homeless families and individuals and those affected by disaster. A ministry of St John, Sumner & St Peter, Oran. They offer women, men, and children clothing, shoes, coats, bedding & towels. Hours: Tuesdays 9-11 am, Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm, and the 1st Saturday of each month, 9-11 am. If you have any questions email or call Carolyn Mohlis, 319-279-3247 or Carolyn.mohlis@gmail.com.

WELCA Board Meeting

TBD

Gather Bible Study- afternoon class- will be the first Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm and the Evening Gather Bible Study will be the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm, both at the church.

**Next Meeting: May 1, 1:00 pm &
May 2, 7:00 pm**

Serving Committee for May

Doris Blankenship	Erika Benschoter
Teresa Diercks	Gayle Eick
Melodie Foelske	Jan Hartmann
Leah Homeister	Lisa Michels
Opal Miller	Wendy Mohlis
Joyce Schimmels	Crystal Shedenhelm
Karen Thurm	Marlyn Wolter

His Hands Oran Food Pantry,

Serving families in the area that are experiencing food insecurity. Requests for May —Pancake Mix, Syrup, Canned Pears & Peaches, Sugar, Instant Oatmeal, Canned Soup, Cake & Brownie Mix, Jelly, Tomato Juice, Tuna, Cereal. Open Tuesdays, 5:00-8:00 pm. And Friday, 9:00 am - noon. Served in March: 79 Households, 198 Individuals, 6,140 lbs of food distributed. Questions? - 319-638-4357.

Love Offering

Each year the Women of the ELCA (WELCA) at St. Peter Lutheran Church conduct a spring Love Offering. The Love Offering will continue through the end of May. The Love Offering supports local and national causes—2018 designation is as follows: 50% to Christmas Gifts; 25% Curran Hospital in Liberia-solar project similar to Phoebe Hospital; 25% to EWALU. We will apply for a Thrivent Choice Dollar match also. A special envelope is included with your regular offering envelopes, or you may use a plain envelope and mark it "Love Offering." Thank you for your support of the Love Offering. Act Boldly—Give Generously!



Faith Formation



A big THANK YOU to our modern day Shepherds, the Ackerman family, for bringing in the lamb for the congregation to enjoy!

2018 St. Peter High School Graduates

Congratulations to Tim Arians, Dalton Austin, Chalee Gienau, Jenna Haase, Sam Joerger, Nicholas Krabbenhoft, Nick Mohlis, Annie Place, Bethany Sadler, Blake Steege, Zack Thrasher, and Trevor Thurm, on successfully completing your high school education! **In recognition of your achievement, we are inviting all members of the graduating class of 2018 to worship together at our 9 am worship service, May 27.** Please bring your graduation gown and meet in the Friendship Room at 8:45 am. Be sure to invite your family, baptismal sponsors, and friends to join you in thanking God for the wisdom, education, and memories of these past years. The graduates will receive quilts made by members of the congregation, along with a reception following the service in the friendship room.

We will once again have a "Graduate Recognition Board" at the back of the sanctuary. **If you would like your picture and future plans for the fall to be included, please bring a wallet size senior picture and note the college you will be attending and the area of study to the church office by May 15.**

Confirmation Schedule

6:30 pm on Wednesdays

May 2, Family Bible Study

May 9, Confirmation Class

May 16, Confirmation Class along with -

Affirmation of Baptism pictures and Rehearsal

May 20, Affirmation of Baptism (arrive by 8:30 am).

The following young disciples: Hunter Ackerman, Brooke DeVries, Mitchell DeVries, Jacob Lyons, Conner Vauthier; will make public profession of their faith to continue in the covenant God made with them in their holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus.

Sunday School

Classes follow worship, at 10:00 am. ***the last day of Sunday School is May 6.** Our Sunday School children shared offerings will be used to purchase peanut butter and jelly for the Food Bank. If you have any questions please contact Lisa Michels, lisa@mcsupport.com or 319-427-2088.

May 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:30 am Womenfest 1:00 pm Gather Bible Study 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	2 6:30 pm Family Bible Study 7:00 pm Gather Bible Study	3 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl	4	5 9:00-Noon St Peter Clean Up
6 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Mission Board	7 8:00 am Financial Board mtg 6:30 pm Property Management meeting	8 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	9 6:30 pm Confirmation	10 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline 6:30 pm Council meeting	11	12
13 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship with 10:00 am Sunday School	14	15 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	16 6:30 pm Confirmation	17 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 1:00 pm Bremwood Luncheon	19 9:00 am NEIA Food Bank
20 7:45 am Bell Choir 9:00 am Worship with Noisy Offering Affirmation of Baptism	21	22 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	23	24 7:00 am Mensfest 10:00 am Bulletin Deadline	25	26
27 9:00 am Worship Baccalaureate	28 Memorial Day Office closed	29 7:30 am Womenfest 7:00 pm AA/Alanon	30	31		

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2018 MINISTRY BOARDS

Ministry Boards are a vital part of the congregational system. Lay members are currently needed for each of these boards to function as intended. Please consider where you might share your gifts in these important ministries of the congregation. If you would like to know more about a board please contact The Congregational President. Thank you!

Church Council: Amy Lockhart, Eve Pautsch, Jim Jurgenson, Sue Buss, Gavin Carman, Todd Foelske, Gene Leonhart, Mary Stevens, LaVonne Westendorf

Executive Board: Jim Jurgenson, Eve Pautsch, Amy Lockhart, Gene Leonhart

Property & Management: Neil Hartmann, Gene Leonhart, Leroy Homeister, Dwight Diercks, Roxane Franzen, Gavin Carman

Parish Education: Todd Foelske, Lisa Michels

Worship & Music: Sheila Mixdorf, Amy Lockhart, Jo VanDeBerg, Joyce Miller, Nancy Lamos, Sheryl Moeller

Mission: Sue Buss, Pat Leonhart, Bev Diercks, Shirley Thurm, Gretchen Syhre, Kelley Carman

Stewardship: Mary Stevens, Dori Jurgenson, Brenda Wolter

Youth & Family: Eve Pautsch, Krista Wahl, Connie Lobeck, Sarah Sanderson, Julie Brinkman

Evangelism: Staci Mueller, Art Kurtt, LaVonne Westendorf, Roger Donaldson

Financial Board: Dwight Diercks, Paul Meier, Jim Moeller, Jack Mixdorf, Gene Leonhart, Gavin Carman